

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 22, 2007. Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 18 remain in the application, of which Claims 1 and 12 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 16 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0027593 (Wilkins) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,151,643 (Cheng), Claims 2, 4, 6 to 8, 10 to 15 were rejected under § 103(a) over Wilkins in view of Cheng and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,473,740 (Cockrill), and Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under § 103(a) over Cheng in view of Wilkins and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,754,654 (Hiroya). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to undoing execution of a function on a computer object, and refunding a user for at least a portion of a sum paid to execute the function on the object. According to the invention, a server receives a request from a client station to undo execution of the function on the computer object, where the execution of the function is to manipulate the object from an earlier state of the object to a manipulated state of the object. When the undo request is received by the server, the earlier state of the manipulated object is obtained. Then, a response is sent to the client station, where the response comprises a sum of electronic money less than or equal to an execution cost received by the server for the execution of the function. Thus, where a user may perform an operation on the object and pays for the operation, but then later wants to have the

operation undone, the user is refunded an amount of electronic money based on the cost already paid for executing the function.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 1 is a method of undoing a function requested by a first client station on a computer object stored on a server station of a communication network, comprising the following steps, receiving from a client station a request to undo execution of the function on the computer object, the execution of the function being adapted to manipulate the object from an earlier state of the object to a manipulated state of the object, obtaining on the server station the earlier state of the manipulated object, and sending a response to the first client station via the communication network, the response comprising a sum of electronic money less than or equal to an execution cost received by the server station for the execution of the function.

Independent Claim 12 is an apparatus claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1 and 12, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a server station receiving a request to undo execution of a function on a computer object, the execution of the function being to manipulate the object from an earlier state of the object to a manipulated state of the object, and sending a response to a first client station that sent the undo request, where the response comprises a sum of electronic money less than or equal to an execution cost received by the server station for the execution of the function.

Wilkins is merely seen to teach a system for converting low-resolution images into high-resolution images. As readily admitted in the Office Action, Wilkins fails to teach sending a response to a first client station that sent the undo request, where the response comprises a sum of electronic money less than or equal to an execution cost received by the server station for the execution of the function.

Cheng is merely seen to disclose a system to update in client computers, software products installed on those client computers. Specifically, Cheng stores information of the state of the client computer before the software update installation, and thus saves in archive copies of files that might be altered or removed by the software update. This allows the client to “undo” the update and return to the previous state. Further, in Cheng, if an update is undone, the transaction fees should be credited back to the user’s credit card account. The “amount” (i.e., the transaction fee to be credited) of the credit is passed back to the client application and displayed to the user, and the credit is then applied to the user’s credit card at the end of the session. However, no actual electronic money is transferred to the client application. Thus, Cheng also fails to teach the feature of sending a response to a first client station that sent the undo request, where the response comprises a sum of electronic money less than or equal to an execution cost received by the server station for the execution of the function.

Cockrill and Hiroya have been studied and, as pointed out in Applicants’ prior responses, those references fail to teach anything that, when combined with Wilkins and/or Cheng, would have resulted in at least the feature of sending a response to a first client station that sent the undo request, where the response comprises a sum of electronic

money less than or equal to an execution cost received by the server station for the execution of the function.

In view of the foregoing deficiencies of the applied art, independent Claims 1 and 12, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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